

MASSACHUSETTS FISHING & HUNTING



For more information on sporting laws and regulations, please refer to the 2021 *Massachusetts Guide* online at www.mass.gov/masswildlife or pick up a copy at sporting license vendor locations across the state.



HUNTING SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

		OPEN SEASON (ALL DATES INCLUSIVE)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	ANNUAL LIMIT
DEER					
	Youth Deer Hunt Day	Oct. 2	See full regulations for more information.	1 antlered deer OR 1 antlerless deer in Zone specified in permit during season	
Deer (Big Game)	Paraleptic Hunt	Oct. 28 – Oct. 30			
	Shotgun	Nov. 29 – Dec. 11			
	Archery	Zones 1–9: Oct. 18 – Nov. 27	See full regulations for more information.	2 antlered deer + antlerless deer by permit	
	Primitive Firearms	Zones 10–14: Oct. 4 – Nov. 27 Dec. 13 – Dec. 31			
BLACK BEAR					
Black Bear (Big Game)	Zones 1–14	Sept. 7 – Sept. 25 Nov. 1 – Nov. 20 Nov. 29 – Dec. 11	See full regulations for more information.		1
UPLAND GAME BIRDS*					
Crow	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Apr. 10 July 1 – Apr. 9, 2022 (M, F, Sat only)	—	—	—
Pheasant	Youth Hunt	Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25, Oct 2, 9	2	4	6
	Zones 1–14	Oct. 16 – Nov. 27			
Quail	Zones 11–14	Oct. 16 – Nov. 27	4	8	20
Ruffed Grouse	Zones 1–14	Oct. 16 – Nov. 27	3	6	15
Wild Turkey (Big Game)	Youth Hunt: Zones 1–13 Fall: Zones 1–9 Fall: Zones 10–13 Spring: Zones 1–13	April 24 (special restrictions apply**) Oct. 18 – Nov. 27 Oct. 4 – Nov. 27 April 26 – May 22	See full regulations for more information.		

* Upland game bird hunting is closed during shotgun deer season. Migratory game birds (includes waterfowl, woodcock, snipe, rails): Seasons and bag limits set annually. For Migratory Game Bird Regulations visit mass.gov/migratory-game-bird.

** Must have completed the Youth Turkey Hunt program.

RABBIT, HARE & SQUIRREL					
Cottontail Rabbit	Zones 1–12	Jan. 1 – Feb. 27; Oct. 16 – Feb. 28, 2022	5	10	—
	Zones 13 and 14	Jan. 1 – Feb. 27; Nov. 15 – Feb. 28, 2022	5	10	—
Snowshoe Hare	Zones 1–4	Jan. 1 – Feb. 27; Oct. 16 – Feb. 28, 2022	2	4	—
	Zones 5–12	Jan. 1 – Feb. 5; Oct. 16 – Feb. 5, 2022	2	4	—
	Zones 13 and 14	Jan. 1 – Feb. 5; Nov. 15 – Feb. 5, 2022	2	4	—
Gray Squirrel	Zones 1–9	Sept. 13 – Jan. 1, 2022	5	10	—
	Zones 10–14	Oct. 16 – Jan. 1, 2022	5	10	—

Rabbit, hare, and squirrel hunting are closed during shotgun deer season.

FURBEARERS					
Bobcat	Zones 1–8	Jan. 1 – Mar. 8; Dec. 20 – Mar. 8, 2022	—	—	—
Coyote	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Mar. 8; Oct. 16 – Mar. 8, 2022	—	—	—
Fox (red or gray)	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Feb. 27; Nov. 1 – Feb. 28, 2022	—	—	—
Opossum	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Jan. 30; Oct. 1 – Jan. 31, 2022	—	—	—
Raccoon	Zones 1–14	Jan. 1 – Jan. 30; Oct. 1 – Jan. 31, 2022	3	See full regulations for more information.	—

All furbearer hunting seasons are closed during shotgun deer season except for coyotes.

Special restrictions apply. The following species may be taken year-round (except during shotgun deer season) by licensed hunters with no daily or seasonal bag limit: English sparrow, flying squirrel, red squirrel, chipmunk, porcupine, skunk, starling, weasel, woodchuck.

FURBEARER TRAPPING

	OPEN SEASON (ALL DATES INCLUSIVE)
Beaver ¹	Jan. 1 – April 15, 2021; Nov. 1, 2021 – April 15, 2022
Bobcat ^{1,2} , Coyote ¹ , Fox ¹ , Weasel	Nov. 1 – Nov. 30, 2021
Fisher ¹	Nov. 1 – Nov. 22, 2021
Mink ¹ , River Otter ¹	Nov. 1 – Dec. 15, 2021
Muskrat, Opossum, Raccoon, Skunk	Jan. 1 – Feb. 28, 2021; Nov. 1, 2021 – Feb. 28, 2022

1 – Pelt checking/reporting required; see below.

2 – Bobcats may only be trapped or salvaged in Wildlife Management Zones 1–8.

NO HUNTING ON SUNDAY



REPORT VIOLATIONS
(800) 632-8075
www.mass.gov/ole